

Victim Service Center of Central Florida Newsletter



January 2016

Newsletter

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Board of Directors

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Chairperson

Adela Hathaway



A Message from Lui

While VSC is the Certified Rape Crisis Center for both Orange and Osceola Counties, a certification we are extremely proud of and take very seriously, you may not know that in addition to serving victims of sexual assault, we also serve all victims of crime in Central Florida.

Last year alone, the VSC Team served 2,313 Victims of Crime in Central Florida.

Our team provides support services to crime victims including stalking, elder abuse, human trafficking, assault, robbery, victims in DUI crashes, domestic violence, survivors of homicide, kidnapping, fraud and home invasion. Our expert team is able to assist crime victims in a multitude of ways including:

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Quick Links

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- Victim Support through the Criminal Justice Process including support, assistance, advocacy and accompaniment provided to a victim of crime.
- Crisis Counseling through specialized in-person crisis intervention, emotional support, and guidance.
- Emergency Legal Advocacy directly connected to family violence cases that are taken to ensure the health and safety of the victim. This includes filing Protection From Abuse orders, injunctions, elder abuse petitions, child abuse petitions, and other protective orders.
- Information and Referrals for crime victims.
- Follow-up Counseling through specialized in-person and telephone individual emotional support, empathetic listening, and guidance after the victimization that is designed to meet the needs of crime victims.
- Assistance in filing Compensation Claims.
- Free, unlimited, and confidential Therapy sessions.

It is our mission to serve ALL victims of crime in our community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to provide the much needed support for those victims and their families and to empower them to begin their healing journey.

This has only been possible because of you. Together, we have been able to assist our community in a powerful, meaningful way. Want to join the fight? [Give Today.](#)

Amanda's Story



I am writing this letter in hopes of helping others like me have the resources available to them that I had.

When I was a child, I felt I lived on a different plane than other children. My hazy existence was brought on by my abusive father, who regularly forced his ideals of what a "special" father-daughter relationship should be. I was sexually,

View our profile on [Linked in](#)

View our videos on [YouTube](#)



Wish List

Gift Cards in \$5-\$10 increments
T-Shirts (Large and XL)
Elastic Waist Pants in all sizes
Sports Bras
Office Supplies
Bus Passes

[Please Click here to view our
Online Registry!](#)

Join a Support Group

VSC offers many opportunities for empowerment. Join one of our support groups to continue your growth and healing.

If you are interested in learning more information please do not hesitate to schedule an appointment (407) 254-9415.

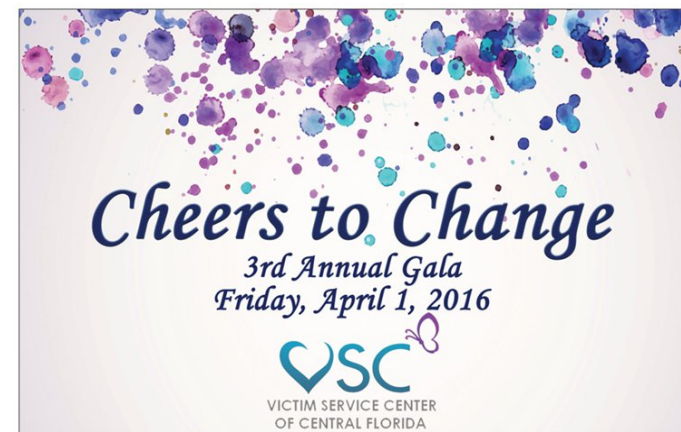
physically, and emotionally abused as well as degraded, berated and forced to suffer through his treacherous fantasies. He used drugs and alcohol to help attain what he wanted from me as I got older and started to resist. He used lies and threats to keep me compliant, making me believe that this is just how life is for every girl.

I survived. I made it through the abuse and aftermath, thanks to my animals and my ability to daydream of happiness and security. I felt that I was doing just fine, living in denial for many years.

However, in 2008, memories started to resurface. I felt I was reliving my childhood every time I attempted to sleep. Anxiety crept into my life and insomnia ruled my nights. [Continue Reading](#)

Cheers to Change- Tickets on Sale NOW!

Don't miss the event of the year!
Cheers to Change, VSC's 3rd Annual Gala, will take place on Friday, April 1st, 2016 from 6pm to 10pm at the Orlando Museum of Art. This evening of delicious food, wine, entertainment and art allows us to continue to provide direct crisis intervention support to victims in Central Florida. The evening will include live music, an auction packed with incredible items, and over 400 VSC supporters.



Your support allows our team to continue life changing work which will directly impact victims of crime in Central Florida. Tickets are \$50. [Get your tickets here!](#)

Untested Sexual Assault Kits



On January 4th, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) released the Sexual Assault Kit Assessment regarding the 13,000 untested rape kits. They conducted a statewide assessment of the kits that had not been submitted for analysis.

Channel 2, Channel 6, and Channel 9 all stopped by VSC's offices to get our input on the report and to learn more about that process. VSC's Executive Director, Lui Damiani, said,

"Getting justice is a big part of some victim's recovery. What we don't want to do is have any unintended consequences that has fewer people coming forward, seeking help."

To watch the interviews, [click here](#)! If you'd like to read the full report, you can check it out [here](#).

Mark Your Calendars

Lunch & Learn

Wednesday - January 27, 2016

12:00pm - 1:00pm

RSVP by calling (407) 254-9415 or e-mail [Rhonda Wilson](#).

Held the Last Wednesday of Every Month

By attending our Lunch and Learn, you will learn about our history, mission, services, goals, and ways to get involved. To attend our Monthly Lunch & Learn, you must RSVP. Space is limited and lunch will be provided.

Volunteer Orientation

Wednesday - February 24, 2016
3:00pm-4:00pm
RSVP by emailing [Shannon Batten](mailto:Shannon.Batten).

Join us to learn about VSC volunteer opportunities and ways you can get involved! RSVP is required to attend. We hope to see you there!

Victim Service Center of Central Florida

Contact Information

Hours: Monday - Friday (8AM-5PM) | Office: (407) 254-9415

2111 E Michigan St, Suite 210
Orlando, Florida 32806

24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline: (407) 497-6701

www.VictimServiceCenter.org

